tion for North Eastern parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the coal corporation for North Eastern parts of the country will provide any facilities to the industries/power projects in that area; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Action plan for more coal linkage to Southern and Western Regions

767. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement an action plan for large scale movement of coal to power stations in Southern and Western regions during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the supply and demand of coal to power stations has been seriously affected during the last three years; and

(d) by when the proposed action plan would be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) Supply of coal to thermal power stations in western and southern regions has been posing some problems due to low coal production in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Movement plans for supply of coal to all thermal power stations including Southern and Western regions thermal power stations are worked out jointly by Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways and Deptt. of Power. The plan finalised recently for ten thermal power stations in western and southern regions envisages supply of 32.8 m.t. of coal for generating 43.4 billion units during the year 1992-93. This plan is under implementation. It is being updated every year. Supply of coal to power sector during the last year has been more or less according to the coal demand based on generation targets.

Rampant corruption in SECL

768. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SECL (South Eastern Coal-fields Ltd.) frequently changes the system of selling coal meant for free sale at West Korba in the State of Madhya Pradesh causing unavoidable hardships to the purchasers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the system of middlemenship was totally abolished in the area but despite the ban middlemen are working freely in the areas and are being protected by the SECL authorities; and

(d) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take to remove the rampant corruption in SECL?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) SouthEastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) have reported that there have been no frequent changes in the system of selling coal meant for free sale from Korba West area of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. The existing system has been developed taking into consideration the convenience of consumers. Since the introduction of free sale coal in Dipika projects of Korba West area, maximum of 1000 tonnes was being allowed per application, which was to be supplied within 15 days. However, due to heavy rush and long ques for this coal small consumers were being put to hardship. Hence, it was decided by SECL

in April'92 to earmark 3 fixed days in a week for receiving applications, for a maximum quantity of 200 tonnes per application. This procedure was duly notified to all concerned. According to SECL, this system has proved to be effective in ensuring smooth operation of free sale.

(c) and (d) Coal under free sale scheme is sold to the applicants without any sponsorship. In any case, middlemen if any are appointed by consumers and not by coal companies. In case any specific case of corruption is brought to the notice of Government, it would be got enquired into as per rules.

Setting up of hardware technology parks

769. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the policy framework for the setting up of hardware technology parks in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up Electronic Hardware Technology Parks in different parts of the country is under consideration of the Government.

Fresh dialogue with new FIJI Government

770. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to initiate fresh dialogue with the new Government of Fiji for betterment of Indians there;

(b) if so, the details of the steps being taken or already taken in the matter and with what result;

(c) whether any such talks for betterment of Indians have been held with any other country during 1991-92; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir. There has not been any proposal so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government remains alive to the interests and general welfare of Indians abroad. Indian Missions have been instructed to maintain close contacts with Overseas Indians and render them all possible assistance. Whenever necessary, the matter is discussed with the host Government.

Ban on LTTE in Sri Lanka

771. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sri Lankan Government has stated in categorical terms that they would not like to ban LTTE in their country though the Government of India banned the LTTE activities in India; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the response from the Government of Sri Lanka is not encouraging in the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) On May 14, 1992 Government of India declared the LTTE as an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. In this context, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, while speaking in Sri Lankan Parliament on May 21, stated that the Sri Lankan Government did not "wish to prejudge the issues and take precipitatory unilateral action".